

Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

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Carter Library Reaches 100% ARC Goal

First NARA Unit to Reach 100%

Atlanta, GA. - The Jimmy Carter Library announced today that it has described all of its holdings in NARA's Archival Research Catalog at the series level. ARC Product Owner, Pamela Wright commented, "This is a milestone event for the ARC project. This success is due to the diligent work of the ARC users at the Carter Library. Congratulations to all of you for your outstanding efforts in contributing descriptions to ARC."

The Carter Library becomes the first NARA unit to reach the goal of having all its series described in ARC, well ahead of the 2005 goal of 40% and the 2008 goal of 80%.

"We are far from done," said Robert Bohanan, deputy director of the Carter Library. "We view ARC as a natural evolution from PresNet, the database that Presidential libraries developed in the 1980s. The libraries have always described their holdings at the folder title level, not just the series level. We put all of our collections, series, and folders into PresNet with subject headings. That data was migrated into NAIL, and then migrated again into ARC. Today we have about 90% of our open folder titles in ARC as file units. Our researchers have always been excited about being able to do subject searches on our holdings at the folder title level. When we finish getting all of our folder titles into ARC, we'll feel like we've given researchers a really valuable tool."

Bohanan went on to say that while the Library is concentrating on getting opened folders into ARC, it has also started working on integrating ARC into the processing of unopened material. He also said that he looks forward to a new report format debuting in July that will allow the Presidential libraries to produce printed manuscript registers directly from their ARC data.